ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A timing loop is used in a data communications receiver to time lock the receiver to a transmitter sending data across a communications loop, where the receiver includes a linear equalizer for correcting signal distortion associated with the communications loop. The timing loop includes a timing equalizer filter functionally positioned to provide an equalized signal to the phase detector portion of the timing loop. After the linear equalizer trains, the equalizer coefficients are copied to the timing equalizer.